



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 152

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2006

No. 113

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PRICE of Georgia).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
September 13, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM PRICE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### PRAYER

The Reverend Louis V. Iasiello, President, Washington Theological Union, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Most good and gracious God, You bless us and guide us at every moment of our lives, and most especially at times of great trial and adversity.

We thank You for the priceless gift of this great Nation and for the constitutional principles that guide it. We thank Thee for the many liberties that mark us as a blessed and a free people, and for myriad patriots who have worn the sacred cloth of military service throughout our proud history, citizen warriors who have defended those freedoms against the tyrannies of days past and those who continue the good fight this very day. We know their service honors You, for it stands as yet one more sign of the great bounty that is the United States of America.

And so at this troublesome time of national emergency, in the current struggle against global extremism, we ask for the strength to face adversity with pure and sincere hearts that You might empower us to be a light for all the nations and build a world with justice and peace for men and women of good will everywhere. So help us God, amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SHIMKUS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 866. An act to make technical corrections to the United States Code.

### SMALL BUSINESS NEEDS

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to continue addressing the needs of small businesses that create seven out of every 10 jobs in our communities. Small businesses are the backbone of our local economies.

During the past month, I held small business walks down the main streets and through the business districts of towns and villages in New York's Hudson Valley.

I talked directly to small business owners and employees in places like

Warwick, Port Jervis, Beacon and Highland Falls to hear directly from them about the challenges they face every day.

They asked for continued tax relief so they can afford to pay their employees. They need to keep more of their earnings in order to create new, good paying jobs in our local communities.

They asked for affordable health insurance to be more accessible for them to be able to provide for their employees. Only 41 percent of the smallest businesses can afford to offer health benefits, compared with 99 percent of large companies.

When I discussed small business health plan legislation that we have passed in the House, they often agreed that would be a practical first step toward solving the problem of America's uninsured.

Mr. Speaker, these and other proposals are part of a five-point plan I have been pushing to help our small businesses, and I ask my colleagues to support these initiatives that level the playing field for small businesses and provide them the tax relief they need.

### A NEW DIRECTION FOR AMERICA

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, hard on the heels of the anniversary of 9/11, instead of dealing meaningfully with the concerns of the American people, like immigration and the economy, instead the House deals with horse slaughter rules and Indian gaming. There is no meaningful action or even debate on how the Bush administration's war of choice has left Iraq in shambles and civil war.

North Korea and Iran are more threatening and dangerous than when labeled the "Axis of Evil."

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H6431